53 1955

Elected: Councilman Raynor Pace Alexander has been elected chairman of Christian Street YMCA board of managers for 1956-57, the Rev. Marshall L. Shepard, present chairman, announced yesterday. Others named were David N. Phillips, of Al Paul Lefton Co., vice chairman; J.B. Deans, local manager, North Carolina Mutual Insurance Co., second vice chairman, and the Rev. Noah W. Moore, Jr., pastor, Tindley Temple Methodist Church, secretary . . . Prof. George B. Thom, of Wallingford, of Newark College of Engineering, has been elected chairman of Middle Atlantic Section of American Society for Engineering Education.

R. P. ALEXANDER

53 1955

Mrs Carter W Wesley To London For YWCA Confab

Inf. mer
Sat. 9-3-55

HOUSTON — Mrs Carter Wesley of the Houston YWCA, is among the representatives of the United States scheduled to participate in the World's Y W C A Council meeting starting August 31 at Royal Holloway College, near Windsor, it was announced this week at Naticnal YWCA headquarters in New York City. Mrs Wesley left Houston Thursday night for London by way of New York.

The American delegation is headed by Miss Lilace Reid Barnes, recently elected to a three year term as president of the American YWCA and outgoing president of the World Organization. Mrs Savilla Millis Simons, general secretary of the YWCA of the U. S. A., also is among the participants.

The Council meeting will bring together a total of 300 women from over 60 countries and all five continents where the YWCA is at work today serving the needs of women and girls through hostels, club programs, summer camps, educational activities and community development projects. Meeting every four years, the council this year chose Britain as the setting since it was in London in 1885 that the wolrd founding of the YWCA occurred. Centennial features will be included in the program which continues through September 16.

MRS CARTER WESLEY

Reports and business discussed at the Council, which will include leadership, finance, youth work, emergency services, international work and consultative status with the United Nations, will be translated into four languages.

Among other special features of the Council meeting will be a reception at St James' Palace. Delegates will also join in a Centenary Thanksgiving Service at St Paul's Cathedral on September 16.

Mrs Wesley, member of the National Board of the YWCA since 1949, is a candidate for re-election to the Board and for Vice-President and Chairman of the 13-state Southern Region YWCA.

ROCKEFELLER GIVES $509,950 TO AID Y.W.C.A.

Daily Tribune
Mon. 10-3-55

Centennial Fund Total Near 4½ Million

Chicago Ill.

New York, Oct. 2 [Special]—The Young Women's Christian association announced today that John D. Rockefeller Jr. has contributed $509,950 toward its centennial fund.

The fund, a project to strengthen and expand the association's services, has a goal of 5 million dollars. With Rockefeller's gift, its total now is $4,494,419 in cash, pledges, and bequest commitments, according to Mrs. F. Beardsley Foster Jr., chairman of the executive committee for the centennial observance and celebration.

Will Restore Services

Thru the fund, a second staff member will go to Korea to take part in the rehabilitation program of the Korean Y. W. C. A. However, most of the money in the fund will help restore services that were curtailed by Y. W. C. A. branches here because of rising costs in the years after World War II.

More than 1,300 local Y. W. C. A. units will benefit from the fund, Mrs. Foster said. And it will answer 133 requests from communities hoping to organize or extend the Y's program, she added.

"Forty-six per cent of the population of the United States is concentrated in 157 urbanized areas," she said. "There are Y. W. C. A.'s in 151 of these, all of which face expansion problems in serving new communities."

Must Spread Work

Mrs. Foster said that the rapid growth of suburbs was forcing the Y. W. C. A. to decentralize its work. She said that trailers and station wagons were being used to accomplish this.

Income from the fund also will support college and university work, she said. The association has units on 641 campuses. Another aim is to increase the organization's work with teen-agers.

The Y. W. C. A. was founded in England in 1855. Its membership now in the United States is more than 3,000,000.

YWCA TO GET NEW HOUSING

Phyllis Wheatley Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association is reported to have successfully obtained new quarters in Hillcrest Project's Recreation Building, which will give the organization larger and better accommodations.

A full schedule has been mapped out by Mrs. B. E. Kirton, newly-elected chairman of the board of management and Mrs. Ruth Anderson, executive director.

The program follows:

Story Hour for Tiny Tots, Mrs. Florence Avant; Elocution class, teen-agers, Mrs. Jimmy Bryant; Youth Sewing Club, Mrs. Madeline Galloway; Youth Health Class, registered nurses, directed by Miss E. R. Moncrieff, director of nursing at Community Hospital; Pre-natal Care, mother's class, 9 a. m., directed by Dr. D. C. Poore, Chief of Obstetrics, Community Hospital; Child Care classes, staff doctors and nurses, Community Hospital, under the direction of Henry Whyte, administrator of the hospital; choral club, directed by Mrs. Jophenia Reane; dramatics, Mrs. Anderson; Music Appreciation and Charm class, Mrs. Kirton; Arts and Crafts, Mesdames Anderson and Bettie Bell; adult sewing, Mrs. Willie D. Hargrave; World of Books class, Miss Lillian Shober, librarian, Wilmington Colored Library; cooking class, Mrs. Dorothy Walker, home economics demonstrator at Carolina Power and Light Company; Highlights of the Bible, for youth and adults, ministers of the community; canteens and movies.

Miss J. Marie Williams Named New 'Y' Executive

The appointment of Miss J. Marie Williams as interim executive director of the Stiles Street YWCA branch, 300 N. Stiles St., was announced this week by Mrs.

MISS J. MARIE WILLIAMS

Elphanie B. Young, chairman of the committee of management of the Stiles Street branch, and Mrs. Inez Gose, president of the Oklahoma City YWCA.

Miss Williams, who is the daughter of Mrs. Lydia Bacy of Chickasha, is a graduate of Langston university's department of social sciences, and has the master's degree in educational guidance from the University of Oklahoma. She has been active in YWCA work for 11 years, having been affiliated with the Stiles Street branch first in a secretarial capacity, and for the past five years as young adult program director.

Prior to going into "Y" work, she served as a secretary at Douglass High School. In her new position Miss Williams succeeds Mrs. Marie Garner.

Miss Williams' first job in Oklahoma City was that of cashier with a Negro finance organization.

A member of the East Sixth Street Christian church, of which the Rev. T. J. Griffin is pastor, Miss Williams is also a member of Beta Sigma chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha to which she transferred from Alpha Zeta chapter, Langston. Her brother and sister, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Stevenson, reside in Chickasha.

'COURT CAN'T DO IT ALL'—Miss Dorothy Height of NYC, national YWCA executive secretary, tells Bennett College Founders' Day audience that despite U. S. Supreme Court's decisions "a great deal of what happens to us depends on what we ourselves do."

Miss Dorothy Height named to new YWCA leadership post

NEW YORK — The appointment of Miss Dorothy Height of New York City, to the newly-created post of Associate Director for Training on the national staff of the Young Women's Christian Association has been announced by Mrs. Savilla Millis Simons, General Secretary of the organization, headquarters, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York City.

As director of training, Miss Height will be concerned with developing leadership, both volunteer and staff, for the National Board as well as for the 438 community and 641 student associations throughout the country.

A MEMBER of the Leadership Services staff of the YWCA for several years, Miss Height joined the national staff in 1944 as Interracial Education Secretary. In this capacity she specialized in the development of activities to promote understanding among youth of all races and gave advisory service on YWCA program related to the needs and concerns of different racial groups within the membership.

In the summer of 1955 she was invited by the World YWCA as one of 35 women from YWCA's around the world to participate in a Consulation on Leadership held in Cret Berard, Switzerland.

Following the Consultation Miss Height was a member of the American delegation to the World YWCA Council meetings held at Royal Holloway College, Engelfield Green, Surrey, England.

In her work on the national Leadership Services staff in this country she has served for several terms as director of the YWCA School for Professional Workers sponsored by the National Association, and helped develop a unified training program for volunteers and staff. As one result of her interest in this phase of YWCA work she served as visiting professor at the Delhi School of Social Work in New Delhi, India, for a semester in the fall of 1952.

* * *

MISS HEIGHT formerly was executive Director of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA in Washington, D. C., and director of the Emma Ransom House, Harlem Branch, New York City. From 1952 to 1955 she was a member of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, an appointment made originally by General George C. Marshall.

She has also participated in numerous other conferences and international social welfare projects including the Congress of Women in Port Au Prince, Haiti, the World Conference of Life and Work in Oxford, England, and the World Conference of Christian Youth in Amsterdam, Holland, the International Conference of Social Work, Madras, India, and was adult leader at the Third World Conference of Christian Youth, Travancore, India.

A native of Richmond, Va., and national president of th Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Miss Height has a master's degree from New York University and has done further graduate study at the New York School of Social Work.

Dorothy Height

Dorothy Height In Y.W.C.A. Post

Miss Dorothy Height, of New York, has been appointed to the newly created post of associate director for training on the national staff of the Young Womens Christian Association, Mrs. Savilla Millis Simons, general secretary of the association, announced yesterday.

Miss Height will be concerned with developing leadership of volunteer and staff workers for the national board and for the 438 community and 641 student associations throughout the country.

She joined the leadership services staff of the Y. W. C. A. in 1944 as interracial education secretary. She has a master's degree from New York University and has done graduate work at the New York School of Social Work.

Y.W. Asked To Review Bias Issue

'Inclusiveness' Policy Studied

Four thousand delegates to the twentieth national convention of the Young Women's Christian Association of the United States were asked yesterday to evaluate bluntly the extent to which their local organizations have carried out the policy of racial "inclusiveness" adopted ten years ago.

This policy was defined as "involving the inclusion of Negro women and girls in the main stream of association life."

At the second day's session of the association's week-long convention at Manhattan Center, 311 W. 34th St., the "inclusiveness" problem was presented to the delegates by Mrs. E. Harris Harbison, of Princeton, N. J., chairman of the Leadership Services Committee of the National Board of the Y. W. C. A. It will be voted upon this morning.

Test Questions

The resolution to be acted upon states merely that the local associations and the national board "review its progress toward inclusiveness," and decide upon concrete forward steps to be taken before the next triennium convention in 1958.

Mrs. Harbison went into detail yesterday as to the questions each local organization should ask itself. These questions she said, were the result of a conference of forty national board members, representing all sections of the country, held last winter.

The questions asked, among other things, if Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Japanese, Chinese, or American Indians were really welcome at "Y" centers; if they voted for members of the board of directors; if there were more non-white directors now than ten years ago; if non-whites were eligible for all committees, not just those dealing with public affairs and religion and if non-whites were elected to office in the "Y."

Urges Co-Education

Pioneering of another sort was urged upon the organization by Mrs. Savilla Millis Simons, general secretary. In her annual report she said it was time for the organization to expand its co-educational programs and stress its possibilities of service to married women with families.

Dr. Rollo May, president of the New York Psychological Association, addressed the evening session. She said man's individual "sense of powerlessness" in the face of threats of atomic bombs and communism was the basis of much widespread anxiety, causing men to "huddle together like frightened and numb spectators, filled only with a sense of dread and conviction of their own futility and insignificance."

Residence Facilities To Close At YWCA

Residence facilities of the Phyllis Wheatley Branch LWCA will be closed as of August first. This announcement is made public by Mrs. F. Earl McLendon, chairman, House Room and Registry Committee anw Mrs. Harry V. Richardson, chairman of the Branch Committee on Administration.

Disclosing results of a detailed study made by her committee, Mrs. McLendon offered the recommendation for discontinuance "until adequate facilities are secured." It was also annouunced to the final committee on administration meeting that all girls now in the residence had been notified, all Phyllis Wheatley members informed and that no adverse comments had been formally received.

Original building plans for Phyllis Wheatley Branch called for a third folor dormitory. When this was not feasible, a section of the second floor, originally set aside for departmental use, was made into quarters for a limited number of permanent and transient guests. With the August 1 closing, this space will be made available for the rapidly expanding program areas.

Mrs. J. R. Wilson, Sr., first vice-chairman, presided at this business session of the policy making body where plans were initiated for fall setting-up conferences, Centennial Tea, Annual Meeting and the 1956 Membership Drive.

YWCA

D. C. YW Policy Proves Integration Will Work

All phases of program open to all

WASHINGTON

Despite the discriminatory policy still maintained by the YMCA of the Greater Washington area, its sister organization, the K Street YWCA is proving to the community that Washington is ready for integration.

Officials at the K Street YW, not only talk about their achievements in race relations, but they boast that they were among the early pioneers in a quiet unpublicized anti-discrimination movement in the nation's capital.

ACCORDING to Mrs. Walter Judd, president of the K Street YW, the downtown Y started moving toward integration at least 14 years ago.

"I believe we were the first in the city to open our cafeteria to members of all races," Mrs. Judd stated.

The K Street Y restaurant has been integrated approximately 12 years.

"Even before that, we welcomed everyone to use our facilities," Mrs. Judd said. "All races had access to our living room, typewriters, and four dining rooms.

"Little by little, we have opened up. In November, 1953, a year and a half before the Supreme Court Decision outlawing segregation in public schools, we opened our dormitory to everyone."

The downtown Y operates the Strong Residence, located adjacent to the 17th and K Streets Y Administration building.

"The Supreme Court Decision certainly had nothing to do with our change in policy," Mrs. Judd stated. "We had been moving toward integration all the while."

* * *

THE prseident stated that the the K Street Y nominating committee several months ago elected a non-white member to its board of directors.

She is Mrs. William Stuart Nelson. The association has a total of 39 board members.

* * *

UNLIKE THE YMCAs, the YWs have no local ruling boards of management to formulate the policies of the local organizations.

Each YWCA is governed by its own board of directors.

However, serving as an advisory body to local YWCAs is the board of management of the National Body in New York City.

* * *

THE NATIONAL Y grants to each local chapter a charter and a suggested outline for a governing constitution.

The National Y requires each chapter to pay a basic salary to its employees. It establishes a set of rules governing election of delegates to national membership. It spells out the Christian purpose on which each Y is founded.

* * *

THE NATIONAL BODY does not require any of its chapters to discriminate.

Each YWCA formulates its own constitution.

Each YWCA determines how many branches it shall, or shall not have.

The K Street YWCA has no branches.

* * *

BOTH WHITE and colored hold membership at the K Street YWCA.

Recently this reporter applied for and received a membership card to the downtown Y.

The reporter was urged by the clerk to join the clubs and classes at the K Street YWCA.

The reporter was also instructed to take one of each of the several pamphlets which listed activities held at the K Street Y, and asked to participate.

* * *

THE ACTIVITIES included adult education classes, bridge courses, vacation classes in typing, arts, dressmaking, and charm; the YWCA health and recreation program of slimnastics, swimming, badminton, golf, modern dance, and summer school classes.

According to Mrs. Judd, no outdoor camp has been maintained by the K Street Y since the old one burned several years ago.

However, its one-day camp, which is conducted at the K Street building, is for all races, Mrs. Judd stated.

* * *

OTHER YWCA projects which are "open," according to Miss Mabel R. Cook, executive director of the K Street Y, are the Hannah Harrison Vocational School, the Penthouse, and the swimming pool.

Miss Cook said despite the fact that the vocational school dormitory is presently occupied by all-whites, there has been no rejection of applicants on the basis of race.

* * *

SHE stated that the school was left to the Y in 1950 by Julius Garfinckle and caters to women in their 30's who have not been trained to earn a living. All students must agree to reside in the home during their period of training.

Since the school's inception, only two or three colored persons have applied, Miss Cook stated. They did not represent the more needy cases. Consequently they were not admitted by the Board of Admissions, the executive director declared.

* * *

THE PENTHOUSE, which is operated at the K Street YW administration building, was formerly called the USO Penthouse. However, it is now operated exclusively by the YW, according to Miss Cook.

She said that all members of the Penthouse Club may participate in its activities, which are bi-racial. The club membership is not restricted.

* * *

MISS COOK cited several recent occasions during which she said mixed troops were entertained by the Penthouse Club at social functions. She recalled a colored service man who is active in the Theatre Workshop.

"Recently, most of our service groups have been mixed," she said, "since it has become widely known that we welcome everyone."

ALSO OPERATING in the city is the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, which is sometimes called the "Uptown Y." President of this association is Mrs. Julia West Hamilton. Mrs. Elsie Warren is executive director.

Mrs. Warren stated that a "harmonious relationship" exists between the Phyllis Wheatley and K Street YWCAs.

* * *

PHYLLIS WHEATLEY and the K Street Y are the only two independent YWCAs maintained in the same city in the United States.

In other cities, there is a Central YW, which may or may not maintain a separate building for non-white members. When such

a building is maintained by the Central YW, it is usually referred to as a branch.

The K Street Y is not a branch of Phyllis Wheatley.

Neither is Phyllis Wheatley a branch of the K Street YWCA.

* * *

THIS UNIQUE situation developed in the following manner:

The Phyllis Wheatley YWCA was established 50 years ago. The K Street YWCA was organized five years later.

The K Street Y founders did not wish their association to become a branch of Phyllis Wheatley.

Because it was established first, Phyllis Wheatley was not required, by the National Board to become a branch of the K Street YWCA.

* * *

AFTER DISCUSSING the situation with the board of managers, of the National, Body, New York City, officials of the Phyllis Wheatley Y decided in 1916 to accept association with the K Street Y if it was thought that this was the best method to promote the work in Washington.

The K Street Y was then recognized by the national board as the Central Association.

* * *

THE CENTRAL Association, however, did not approve of adding Phyllis Whatley to their financial responsibilities.

The decision was then made that the two associations remain separate organizations, working and affiliating with the national board in New York on the same basis.

* * *

IN RECENT years, the two YWs have developed a system called "visiting board members."

Visiting board members are two board members designated from each of the YWs to attend meetings held by both organizations.

The visitors observe and report activities to their respective Ys.

At Phyllis Wheatley, Mrs. Hamilton stated that the 901 Rhode Island YWCA Building and membership is open to all races.

However, no white person has ever applied for membership at the Phyllis Wheatley Y, she stated.

THERE HAVE been several white residents at the Phyllis Wheatley building, and also at the Y annex.

Mrs. Hamilton said one white resident lived at the annex for three years.

The Phyllis Wheatley Y, which has a board membership of 32 persons, has no white board member.

YW board fills leadership post

Miss Christensen appointed director

NEW YORK — The National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association of the USA announced Sunday the appointment of Miss Ethyln Christensen as its new Leadership Service Department director.

Miss Christensen, begins her new assignment this month. She has a background of nearly 30 years in the YWCA. Her last post was at the Oklahoma City YWCA where she was executive director for five years.

In her job, Miss Christensen will be responsible for program development and the training of leaders, both staff and volunteers. She succeeds Miss Margaret Logan Clark, who retired from the YWCA this summer.

* * *

A GRADUATE of the University of Wyoming, with both B.A. and M.A. degrees, Miss Christensen began her YWCA career as a professional student secretary at Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kans.

She taught English a year following her graduation, but was attracted to further work with the YWCA during a trip to Europe in 1926 with a YW group assisting with the rebuilding of YW hotels and student centers on the continent.

Prior to her Oklahoma City post, she was an executive at the Buffalo, N.Y. YWCA for 15 years. Membership in Oklahoma City during her stay grew from about 3,000 to an all-time record 5,080 in 1955.

WORLD'S YWCA COUNCIL DELEGATES . . . who attended the meeting held at Egham, Surrey, England, recently, included these exotic and charming women from various points on the globe. From top to bottom are Esther Park, Korea; Adel Carmen, Philippines; Ruth Hill, USA; Mrs. Jones, Liberia; Mrs. Jaegge, Gold Coast; Mrs. P. C. Davie, New Zealand; Ma Sein Tin, Burma; Mrs. Ishiboshi, Japan; Mrs. Nielsen, South Africa; Miss E. Coker, Sierre Leone; Ivy Khan, India, and Miss Tan, Hongkong.—European Photo.

53 1955

Y W C A

YW votes review of desegregation

Soul-searching questions to be put to all local branches

NEW YORK — Some 4,000 delegates to the 20th national convention of Young Women's Christian Association voted unanimously Saturday morning to review progress made in giving equal rights to minority groups in activities and directions of local YWCA organizations.

The action came in reply to a request made Friday for the organization to evaluate carefully the extent to which its YW organizations have carried out the plan of racial "inclusiveness" adopted by the national body 10 years ago.

* * *

THE REQUEST for the review, in the form of a resolution, contained a series of questions that each local organization should ask itself. The queries, the result of a conference of 40 national board members last winter, representing all sections of the country, included:

1. Are colored persons, Puerto Ricans, Japanese, Chinese or American Indians really welcome at Y Centers?

2. Are they eligible to vote for members of the board of directors?

3. Are there more white directors now than there were 10 years ago?

4. Are non-white persons eligible for all committees, not just those dealing with public affairs and religion?

5. Are non-white persons elected to offices in the YWCA?

The problem was presented to the delegates by Mrs. E. Harris Harbison of Princeton N.J., chairman of the leadership services committee of the national board of the YWCA.

* * *

THE RESOLUTION adopted by the body proposes that the local associations and the national board "review its progress toward inclusiveness" and decide upon concrete forward steps to be taken before the next triennial convention in 1958

Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, undersecretary of the United Nations, and Henry C. Lodge, U.S. representative to the United Nations, addressed the delegates Saturday morning prior to adoption of the resolution.

YWCA To Probe Self For Bias

NEW YORK — Local, regional and national YWCA organizations have been asked to examine themselves during the next year for signs of racial discrimination within themselves and their committee and activities.

The 20th national YWCA convention here last week passed a resolution calling for an examination of how affiliates have carried out the policy of racial "inclusion."

Spokesmen defined the policy as "involving the inclusion of Negro women and girls in the mainstream of association life."

The resolution was presented by Mr. E. Harris Harbion of Princeton, N. J.

Among questions local organizations are expected to ask themselves are the following:

Are Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Japanese, Chinese or American Indians really welcome at Y centers? Do they vote for board members? Are there more non-white board members than there were 10 years ago?

Are non-whites eligible for all committees, or are they confined to those dealing with religion and public affairs? Are non-whites elected to office in the Y?

2 Negroes Elected To Y's World Council In London

NEW YORK—National Young Women's Christian Association rededicated itself and prepared for its task in the triennium 1955-58 during the 20th annual sessions here last week. Houston's Mrs Carter W. Wesley and Dr Marion Cuthbert of Brooklyn were elected to the World's Council. They are slated along with other elected representatives to be in London by August 1, for the World Conference and centennial celebrations.

Mrs Wesley was also elected vice to Mrs Eugene M. Sparling of Hot Springs, Southern Region vice president. The sessions were conducted last week in New York's Manhattan Center with such high ranking speakers on program as Dr Ralph Bunche, under secretary general, United Nations; Dr Benjamin E. Mays, president, Morehouse College and Harold Stossen, director, Foreign Relations and newly appointed special assistant to President Eisenhower.

The YWCA was born out of needs of Women and girls.

As a Christian organization made up of members who come together to enrich their own lives and the lives of others, the YWCA has naturally from the early years stressed inclusion in the fellowship of the Association of women of widely different interests, experiences, backgrounds, ages, races and relationships. Negro women and girls have been included in the Association from the very early years, both in the student and community association.

Theme of the conference last week was "Members Together, Preparing for the Task." In part the "Task" includes: "We believe we must continue to be a Christian movement of women and girls of all races, creeds, cultures, economic backgrounds and geographic locations; that such a movement is significant in this day because it gives a special opportunity for women to take real leadership, and to lift up problems otherwise neglected."

"We believe each one must ask herself, 'Who am I? How can I become more truly one with others and with God'? and there must be the kind of program that helps each to find her answer." Y members say.

Here is a task, if we have light to see it, Courage to choose it, will to make it live."

Miss Lilace Reid Barnes of Lake Forest, Illinois was elected to the National YWCA presidential post. She has been president, World's YWCA since 1947.

Vice presidents elected were; Mrs F. Beardsley Foster of Darien, vice president, Conn, headquarters; Mrs W. Maxey Jarman of Nashville, vice president-at-large; Mrs E. A. Hudson Sealey of New York City, secretary; Mrs Boyd I. Miller of Indianapolis, Central Region; Mrs Ralph D. Booth of Salem New Hampshire, Eastern Region; Mrs Eugene Sparling of Hot Spring, Southern Region; Mrs Earl Cranston of Altadena, Calif, Western Region.

Other women elected to the World's Council were; Mrs Arthur Forest Anderson, New York; Mrs Earl Cranston, Mrs Bartlett B. Heard, Berkeley, Calif, Mrs John F. Welborn, Jr, of Greenville, South Carolina; Mrs George L. West of Pittsburg and Mrs William Crawford White of New York.

The five Negro women elected to the National Board were Mrs Lisle C. Carter of New York, Mrs Robert W. Clayton of Grand Rapids, Mrs Earl Thomas of Kansas City; Mrs William Cuthbert of Pittsburg and Mrs Carter Wesley.

Mrs Wesley is the wife of editor and publisher of the Informer Chain of Newspapers. She has done post graduate work at the University of Cincinnatti. She has always been a prominent figure in the Houston YWCA program. A national YWCA board member since 1949, she is also a member of the Houston United Nations Council, a board member for the Lighthouse for the Blind and the Florence Crittenton Home.

Texas Delegates included, Mrs Anna Mae Whidby, Mrs Emelda Brooks, Mrs Doris Marie Anderson and Marion Dillard of Dallas; Mrs Russell Ward, Mildred Jeffress, Thelma Thorton, Bettie Spain and Marjorie Fenell of Fort Worth.

In addition to Mrs Wesley from Houston were Mrs Fred Parrott, Mrs Geneva Bolton, Mrs Lillian Jackson and Faye Anderson of Phillis Wheatley High School, Billie Sue Wrenn and Marion Robinson.

Mrs Ora Lee Mitchell of New Orleans was one of the delegates from along the Gulf Coast area and also many delegates from other Texas towns attended the session.

53 1955

YWCA

YW moves nearer to integration

- Mrs. Harbison reminds group of 1946 pledge
- Dr. Mays tells women to persevere

By JAMES L. HICKS

NEW YORK — The YWCA, the nation's largest woman's organization—opened their vanity cases here last week and took a look at themselves in the mirror of time.

And although, for the most part, the 4,000 women liked what they saw in the mirror, they were the first to admit in true, womanlike fashion, that the racial and facial makeup of the nation can still be improved.

They then proceeded to outline to the world the things they feel should be in the cosmetic kit that will eventually erase the furrows and wrinkles from the worried face of today's world.

* * *

THE MASTER cosmetologist of the week - long convention, which met here, was Mrs. E. Harris Harbison, chairman of the YW's leadership service committee, and wife of a Princeton, N.J., professor.

Mrs. Harbison called the women's attention to the 1946 program of the YWCA, which had pledged itself to "build an organization unhampered by racial barriers in which all members have full status and all persons equal honor and respect as the children of one father."

Then she asked the women to get out their mirrors and take a look at themselves to see how they were living up to their commitment. And she warned them before they looked that:

"It may be rather painful to take a look in the mirror and find that the mental image we have of ourselves is prettier than the actual face we see.

* * *

"BUT," SHE continued, "as a Christian movement, we have a very special duty to break down, one by one, those barriers based on race which keep us from being in fact, as well as in idea, an inclusive fellowship."

With Mrs. Harbison speaking in plain language that all could understand, the 4,000 women, who represented more than three million YWCA members in the United States, took a look in their mirrors, searched their souls and came up with the following action:

1. Elevated a colored woman to the highest post one has ever attained in the history of the 100-year-old organization by making her secretary of the national board;

2. Elected other colored delegates to high key positions with the organization;

3. Unanimously passed a resolution offering a special prayer for the justices of the Supreme Court as they deliberate the implementation of the school cases. (The resolution "petitioned" God to grant each Justice "faith, wisdom and courage as he acts");

4. Adopted other resolution in which they, themselves, agreed to give "honest answers" to questions on the race question, and to take "concrete steps" to erase rapidly racial barriers from the American way of life;

5. Further agreed in adopting their future program to continue to be a Christian movement of women and girls of all races, creeds, cultures, economic backgrounds and geographic locations."

* * *

AS THE WOMEN went through their week of soul searching, they called in a master soul searcher, Dr. Benjamin F. Mays of Morehouse College, to assist them in their task.

Dr. Mays and Dr. Eugene C. Blake, president of the National Council of Christian Churches in the USA, were members of a panel which discussed "Wisdom to Fulfill the Task" for the women in a Tuesday night meeting.

Dr. Mays told the women that from his viewpoint they face six obstacles which they must overcome before their task could be completed.

He then warned them against secularism, which he defined as the attempt to organize our lives individually and society, generally, apart from the Christian God. He said this kind of secularism places upon man a responsibility, which he is "not strong enough, not wise enough and not good enough to carry."

The second challenge, Dr. Mays said, is the need of the world to maintain "and in some instances reclaim" the dignity and worth of the individual.

In this connection, Dr. Mays said, "The person is the most important thing in the world. And it must be emphasized," he added, "that each person has dignity not in his own right but because God conferred dignity and status upon man in the creation of man."

* * *

DR. MAYS SAW as a third challenge the threat that individuals will lose their "sense of mission." He emphasized that every person has a unique function to perform in society and that the job is one which, if he does not do it, it may never be done. He warned the women never to lose sight of this.

The elimination of tensions in the world today was cited by Dr. Mays as a fourth challenge. He said all forms of tensions, racial and otherwise must be eliminated in the task that lies ahead.

The fifth challenge to the women, as Dr. Mays viewed them, was to act on the knowledge and the facts that are at hand. In this connection he says too often, today, people have more facts than they are willing to act upon.

The final challenge he flung to the women was the elimination of barriers which he cited as "class barriers," economic and cultural barriers, religious and racial barriers and barriers between labor and management.

"More and more in the days to come, women and men must work together," he said.

* * *

IN THE PANEL discussion that took place, Dr. Blake and Dr. Mays discussed the Supreme Court's May 17 decision and at one point Dr. Blake asked Dr. Mays if he (Dr. Mays) felt there was ever a place for "compromise or gradualism."

Dr. Mays' answer was classical: He answered in these words:

"When people talk about gradualism I think we must be sure that they are sincere and will continue to press for the ideal and the goal being sought and that they are not simply asking for more time to do nothing."

Then Dr. Mays added:

"When you compromise, you must always be sure you are moving in the direction of your ideals and in the direction of the goals you seek.

"If people are honest and really mean to move, there is nothing wrong with gradualism. But I ask you, who is wise enough to know when we are going too fast?"

Dr. Mays said "the only people who can compromise are those people who have principle. Those who don't have principle simply appease," he concluded.

YWCA to Adopt Interracial Plan

NEW YORK—The 4,000 delegates at the twentieth triennial convention of the YWCA, meeting at Manhattan Center last week, unanimously adopted a national board recommendation that all local groups check their interracial practices against their interracial policies.

They also elected Mrs. A. Hudson Sealy, wife of a physician, of 40 St. Nicholas Place, as secretary of the YWCA of the United States.

Mrs. Sealy has been a member of the national board since 1952.

* * *

THE RACE relations recommendation was read by Mrs. E. Harrison Harbison of Princeton, N. J.

She stated that approval of the measure would mean that associations would study how far they have advanced and what further steps should be taken to remove racial barriers.

Mrs. Harbison stated that some of the questions that were implicit in the measure, to be reported on at the next triennial, would be:

Do people of varied races and cultures serve on all committees?

Are there more non-white board members than there were ten years ago?

Are non-whites on the board considered eligible to head any committees, or merely those with public affairs and religious interests?

How high can a staff member expect to advance if she is a Negro or a member of another minority group?

National Board Of YWCA Holds 20th Convention

BY MYRA J. BRYANT

NEW YORK CITY — (SNS)— The report of the National Board to the 20th National Convention of the YWCA of the USA stated that there are 438 Community YMCA's-175 Branches and Centers and 808 Units of District YMCA's in the United States.

The geographical distribution is as follows: Eastern region-136; Southern region-91; Central region - 141; Western region 40. Branches and Centers: East - 45; South 60; Central 43; West 47. District YWCA's: East 44; South 235; Central 487; West 42.

The 120 members of the National Board of the YWCA are elected from these four regions and voted on in convention. Sixty of the board members are from the New York area.

The leadership of the Young Women's Christian Association nationally should be congratulated for the example set by them in practicing what they preach about equality and respect for human dignity. We are doubtful if there is another interracial organization with a better record in integration.

In 1934 the first Negro woman from the field was elected to the National Board in the person of Mrs. Henry C. Bryant of Birmingham, Alabama. This was especially significant because Mrs. Bryant was from a southern state. Later, another Negro woman was elected to the Board from Alabama in the person of Miss Hilda Davis, at that time Dean of Women at Talladega College. Miss Davis has since moved out of the state and consequently resigned. At present there are represented on the board ten Negro women from various sections of the country and again two from the South-Texas and Louisiana.

Negroes have reason to be proud of the kind of representation they have on the board at present.

Mrs. Bryant served two full terms of six years each, completing twelve years on the board from 1934 to 1946. The present Negro members of the National Board YWCA are: on the World's Council YWCA, which has 12 members, three are Negroes: Dr. Dorothy Ferebee, Miss Dorothy Height and Mrs. Carter Wesley.

Among the officers of the National Board are Mrs. A. Hudson Sealy, Secretary of the YWCA and the National Board and Mrs. Robert W. Claytor, Vice-president and Chairman of the Central Region, former World Council member. For this convention nominating committee 1952-55 there were two, Mrs. Everett Fox of Winston Salem, N. C. and Miss Frankie Adams of Atlanta, Ga.

Board Members are as follows: Mrs. Robert W. Claytor, (Helen Wilkins) of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Mrs. Lisle C. Carter (Eunice Hunton) of New York, N. Y.; Mrs. William M. Cuthbert (Lucille Madison) Pittsburgh, Pa.; Dr. Dorothy Ferebee, St. Albans, N. Y.; Mrs. A. Hudson Sealy (Isobel Lawson) New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Carter Wesley (Doris Wooten) Houston, Texas.; Mrs. Leo Marsh (Bessie Givens) Montclair, N. J.; Mrs. W. H. Mitchell (Oralee Baranco) New Orleans, La.; Dr. Marion Cuthbert, Brooklyn, N. Y. and Mrs. Alice B. Arrington, New York, N. Y.

On the National Staff at headquarters in New York are Miss Dorothy Height and Miss Mamie Davis.

Former members of the Board and Staff are: Mrs. Grace Townes Hamilton, Atlanta, Ga.; Mrs. E. P. Roberts (Ruth Logan of Tuskegee) New York, N. Y.; Miss Frances Williams, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Cordella Winn, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Celestine Smith New York, N. Y. and Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, one of the early pioneers in Y work.

Deceased members are Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Haynes of New York and Miss Eva Bowles of New York. Mrs. Addie Hunton, New York.

The first group of Negro women organized by Miss Bowles as a National Staff person were the Birmingham group, in 1912. This was the beginning of the Branch YWCA now located at 500-8th Avenue N. although it was not recognized as a Branch until 1927.

Wheatley Y Plans Two Anniversaries

By S. L. Fishbein
Staff Reporter

"We are mere servants of Christ working together toward one common end," says Julia West Hamilton of those who guide the destiny of the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA.

Mrs. Hamilton has been one of those for the past 50 years, or ever since there's been a Wheatley Y in Washington.

For the last 25 of those years, Mrs. Hamilton has been president of the association.

Those two anniversaries, together with the 100th anniversary of the founding of the world-wide YWCA movement will be observed at a banquet at 8 tonight at Baldwin Hall, Howard University.

Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of the University, will be the guest speaker.

Julia West Hamilton and her fellow workers helped the Wheatley Y grow from a two-room uncertainty on Maryland ave. sw. into an important institution for Negro girls with an administration building at 901 Rhode Island ave. nw., a annex at 1719 13th st. nw., a summer camp near Highland Beach, Md.

Mrs. Hamilton is proudest of the fact that she has been a member of the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church for 70 years and is chairman of its trustee board.

She spent 40 years in a women's group serving Union veterans of the Civil War. She also has served the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

She and the late John Alexander Hamilton brought up three children. One of them is Col. A. West Hamilton, a member of the District Board of Education. Another is Percival Y. Hamilton, in the printing business here. The third is Mrs. Foster B. Pettie, a former District school teacher and now the wife of a New York physician.

It has been a full and productive life for the daughter of South Carolina slaves whose formal education ended when she moved to Washington at the age of 12.

As Mrs. Hamilton recalls the story, her parents had to obtain

JULIA WEST HAMILTON
. . . a productive life

the consent of her respective owners before they could marry. After their marriage they continued to live apart in the homes of the families they served.

Mrs. Hamilton's father, Thomas W. West, was taught to read by the daughter of his owner, over her father's strongest objections.

When the Civil War broke out, Thomas West was able to read about it. He ran off and joined the Union Navy.

At war's end he returned to Charleston and rejoined his wife. During reconstruction days he was befriended by Col. Peter C. Hains. The West family came north with Col. Hains when he was assigned to engineering duties in Washington. Hain's name is perpetuated at Hains Point.

This move brought young Julia West to the city to which she has given more than a half century of service.

In discussing the growth of the Wheatley Y the other day, Mrs. Hamilton told a reporter, "Please don't forget our past presidents, Mrs. Bettie G. Francis and Mrs. Frances Boyce, our board and our staff. Please don't give people the idea that I'm the whole show."

53 1955

Norfolk 'Y' Played Host To Confab

Interracial Group Plights Future For Current Generation

NORFOLK — With the theme, "We, The Younger Generation," a three-day interracial Y-Teen State Conference opened here on Feb. 18 at Central YWCA, 253 W. Freemason street with approximately 200 Y-Teens and 28 adults present.

Conference objectives were 1) To grow in the love and knowledge of God; 2) To become better Y-Teens by living the YWCA purpose; 3) To acquire a better understanding of ourselves and others; 4.) To develop leadership ability; 5) To share program ideas and techniques; 6) To be better citizens.

• • •

FRIDAY'S agenda included registration, supper, get acquainted games from 8:30 to 9:15 p.m., and adult worship from 9:15 to 9:30 p.m.

Saturday's activities began with a morning sing followed by worship and general session, which began at 9:45. Workshops were held from 10 a.m., to 11:30 a.m., and after lunch club clinics were held. The banquet took place at 7 p.m., with Rev. E. Paul Simms, pastor, First Baptist Church, Bute street, as guest speaker. He spoke on the confernece theme.

Workshops were on the arts, religion, personal relations, recreation, citizenship, and vocations. Leading discussions were Misses Kay Stevens, Eleanor Crocker, and Anita Alston from Phyllis Wheatley Branch, and Misses Sandra Harrison, Betty Renn, and Dorothy Bobby, from Central. Miss Flossie Morgan and Mrs. Ann Fairclough served as resource leaders. Resource speakers were Rev. Mr. Simms, and the Rev. Royce K. McDonald.

The conference closed on Sunday, which included worship evaluation, election, nad lunch.

THE CLUB clinic discussions included an excsange of ideas or ways and means to make a Y-Teen Club more meaningful to each member and ways in which members can make their clubs accomplish the purpose and focus of Y-Teen Clubs.

Delegates attended the con-

Also celebrated during the conference was the 100th birthday of the YWCA, which was observed at the banquet on Saturday evennig.

A GOOD TIME, ETC. A good time was had by all of the 200 Y-teens who gathered in Norfolk Feb. 17-19 for an interracial state conference. In photo at top is a group of delegates to the conference enjoying a lunchroom session at the Central YWCA where all sessions were held.

Photo at bottom shows a group of Y-teens from Lynchburg being appraised of the offering of Norfolk's new YWCA facility by Kay Stevens of Norfolk, standing. Seated, left to right, ar Alpha Coles, Shirley Blankenship, Juanita Dickey and Mary Case. Inset is the Rev. E. Paul Simms of Norfolk's First Baptist Church, who spoke at a banquet which featured the sessions. The banquet was held Saturday evening, Feb. 19.

YMCA

- Restrictions on Jews and Catholics too
- 'Anti' policy includes color and religion

BULLETIN

BALTIMORE

Whether or not the Baltimore YMCA will abandon its segregation policy may come before the board when it meets Tuesday, April 12.

At the March meeting the integration question was referred to the executive committee which has had one meeting during the interim. Seth W. Heartfield, president of Delvale Dairies, 2030 Harford Rd., is president of the association.

CLOSER EXAMINATION of the constitution of the YMCA shows restrictions upon Catholics and Jews. Colored persons, who are not mentioned in the constitution, are segregated as a matter of policy.

Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution of the YMCA adopted in 1951 declares that active membership in the association shall be open to any (Christian) person at least 16 years of age with good character.

Earlier constitutions limited the membership to men and boys.

Restriction of membership to Christians, bars the Jewish people, unless they desert their own faith.

* * *

Article II, Section 2 of the constitution states: "Active membership confers on the holders thereof the right to participate in all activities of this association upon payment of the prescribed membership dues."

Some directors declare that this section of the constitution bans segregation of the races, but the practice of the association is to set up by branches for colored persons at Druid Hill, Turner Station and Druid Hill Camp and utilize the 11 other branches for white persons only.

Exceptions are that colored persons are permitted to use the cafeteria at Central.

Upon invitation at Central, colored have limited use of the gymnasium and are housed in the dormitory only when they are accompanied by a white person or invited to speak there.

* * *

ARTICLE III, Section 1, limits the number of Catholics that may be elected to the board to seven.

It requires three-fourths of the board to be members of some Evangelical (Protestant) church.

The board has a membership of 30 directors of which 23 must be Protestants.

* * *

THE CENTRAL Branch which restricts use of dormitory facilities, reported at the end of 1954 that income from living quarters had dropped seven to 10 per cent in comparison with the previous year.

This means that Central has rooms which they prefer to keep vacant rather than rent rooms to colored members.

W. Gordon MacGregor, general secretary of the Baltimore YMCA who has said that he favors gradual rather than immediate integration, reluctantly granted an interview to an AFRO reporter.

Mr. MacGregor said that the series of articles this paper has been publishing concerning the YMCA's segregation policy has "exposed" the organization.

Although the secretary stuck to his guns in refusing to discuss conditions in the YMCA, the reporter was able to secure an answer to one question.

"What is a 'partner membership'?" the reporter asked.

"Go to the Druid Hill Ave. Branch and let them answer your question," Mr. MacGregor replied.

The secretary then said: "You can become a partner member. We'd be glad to have you here."

The reporter learned—and not from the Druid Hill Ave. Branch—that a partner membership entitles a person to contribute $25 to any branch. In return the contributor periodically receives YMCA literature and an invitation to the YMCA's annual meeting.

* * *

J. A. B. CALLIS who has been a member of the board for many years, this week mourned the lack of interest of influential people in the YMCA.

Mr. Callis, a retired schoolteacher and one of two colored members of the board, said:

"We do not have enough people who still make themselves active within the association to help straighten these things (segregation).

"We ought to have a larger number of . . . the more important people in this community who are interested. When we don't have them, it is a struggle that goes on with the very small group and . . . numbers count in anything.

"It would be so much better for all of us if we had a larger group of men who were interested in the development of the association. Regardless of this question of integration. (The) question . . . now is uppermost, of course.

"And we have got to pay some attention to it; we have got to find a solution for it and all of the situations in which we find ourselves.

"Some people will come to me knowing that I have been associated with the YMCA for a long while and they ridicule me because they do not know the actual situation within the association.

"Now I would like to get those men in there to let them see what the situation is . . . We would be a whole lot better off than we are now."

* * *

THE AFRO in a recent edition estimated that the YMCA receives an annual tax-exemption of about $60,000.

This money which the city does not collect represents actually a gift on the part of all the citizens to the association.

The following is a Good Friday message sponsored by the YMCA,, urging people to read the Bible and attend church:

"Three crosses stood on Calvary
Stark against the sky.
Roman soldiers laughed to see
Three ways a man can die.
Who builds the cross on Calvary
Stark against the swy?
Who laughs at pain and want,
Can it be you or I?"

18 Leave Today For YWCA National Meet In New York

Eighteen representatives of the Phyllis Wheatley Branch YWCA leave today for the 20th National Convention of the Young Women's Christian Association in New York City, April 21-27.

Voting delegates at this Centennial Year assembly will be Miss Frankie V. Adams, a member of the National Nominating Committee, and Mrs. H. V. Richardson, chairman of the Branch Committee on Administration.

Mrs. Sylvia F. Crank, Phyllis Wheatley Executive Director will be a discussion leader while Mrs. Edith A. Hambrick, Young Adult Director is to be a recorder. Mrs. Anna A. Reed, Health Education Director, and Mrs. J. B. Prather, chairman of the local Camp Committee are core members of a leadership team for the convention.

Mrs. Clara Lowe, director of the Teen-Age department, will participate in activities concerning that area as will seven junior members who have assisted in writing a skip for a playlet in which they are to participate during the convention. They are also scheduled to be members of the Convention Chorus. Included are Juliette Amy, Turner High; Susan Grimes, Washington High; Joan Harris, Avondale; Willie Dean Moore, Howard High; Eleanor Mullins, Crogman; Jeanette Osby, Herring Street and Emily Williams, Walker Street School.

Other associate delegates include Misses and Mesdames Romelle Patterson, Ann Caudle, Sadie Cash and Sarah Wynn.

Local members at various times will have the opportunity to listen to National Convention programs. Included in these are a Sunday morning program to be held in Radio City on April 24 and the national radio program, "Town Meeting of the Air," emanating that evening from National Headquarters of the YWCA in New York City.

Y. W. C. A. WILL ACT ON RACIAL UNITY

Convention Sets Vote Today on Study of Carrying Out Policies in Practices

The national board of the Young Women's Christian Association recommended yesterday that all its local groups check their inter-racial practices against their inter-racial policies.

The proposal will be acted upon today by the association's triennial convention, which is meeting at Manhattan Center, 311 West Thirty-fourth Street.

Mrs. L. Harris Harbison of Princeton, N. J., chairman of the leadership services committee, read the recommendation to 4,000 delegates. While an interracial policy was adopted in 1946 as "a conscious goal," approval of the measure would mean that associations would study how far they have advanced and what further steps should be taken to remove racial barriers.

Mrs. Harbison said that some of the questions that were implicit in the measure, to be reported on at the next triennial, would be:

¶Do people of varied races and cultures serve on all committees?

¶Are there more non-white board members than there were ten years ago?

¶Are non-whites on the board considered eligible to head any committees, or merely those with public affairs and religious interests?

¶How high can a staff member expect to advance if she is a Negro or a member of another minority group?

"The recent advances in desegregation and the Supreme Court decision on the schools," she said, "have caused a backwash of resistance to the breaking down of barriers which may make this period a particularly difficult one for us.

"A voluntary organization, dependent on the good will of the community and on the community's money for its existence, has to have a special fund of courage to take steps of which everyone may not approve."

In the annual report as general secretary, Mrs. Savilla Millis Simons emphasized the need for more joint activities and discussions with men, for both variety and growth.

Dr. Rollo May, president of the New York Psychological Association, told the convention that the individual "becomes healthy psychologically as he becomes more of a responsible person in his own right."

53 1955 YWCA

The Story Of The YWCA

(Second of 3 Parts

Developments and Groth

The YWCA's program for the physical, spiritual and mental health of young women and girls began to grow in the 1860's, soon after its founding.

Apart from providing Christian guidance to the young women who came in increasing numbers to the various YWCA community associations, a main concern of the early leaders was to offer them a safe, inexpensive, decent place to live. Residence thus became a main feature of the YWCA program.

Next to a place to live, a job was the apparent need. In a short time the associations assumed the functions of informal employment bureaus.

All Interests Met

From the beginning, the overall program of the YWCA has been adapted to meet the ever-widening professional and emotional interest of young women. Classes in penmanship, bookkeeping, astronomy and physiology began in the late 1860's. The YWCA was the first organization in the country to offer sewing machine lessons in 1872. Group singing became, and remains today, a popular activity. The program was enlarged to meet the interests not only of girls living in YWCA residences, but for others in the community as well. Stenography china painting, domestic science and cooking were added to the list of instructions offered by the mid-1880's and after doctors had decide that the female constitution was strong enough to cope with the machine-typewriting.

The need for inexpensive vacations for working women was recognized by the establishment of Sea Rest at Ausbury Park, New Jersey, in 1874. This was the first of the many YWCA summer camps that are now in operation, in addition to the vast number of day camps and child care centers that are maintained by the associations.

Many girls who came to the associations seeking spiritual guidance and a focal point in their lives outside of day-to-day work were physically unequipped to stand the strain of their daily living. So, another need was seen and met, and a class in calisthenics was organized in the Boston Association in the late 1870s. Other associations rapidly followe suit, an by 1895 swimming had become an important part of the sports curriculum. This was the beginning of today's large health education program.

To meet the increasing demand for general education, many associations offered classes in a wide variety of subjects, with emphasis on their practical application to everyday living. The education process of the YWCA has been to provide for individual development with emphasis on thinking, working and acting together. The YWCA has not only provided opportunity for fellowship among individuals of like or similar experience but has extended the boundaries of fellowship with people of widely different backgrounds and experience.

Interracial Problem Studied

As a Christian organization made up of members who come together to enrich their own lives and the lives of others the YWCA has naturally from the early years stressed inclusion in the fellowship of the association of women of widely different interests, experience, background, age race and nationality. Negro women and girls have been included in the association from very early years, both in the student and community associations. Much effort over the years has gone into work on interracial problems and the widening of the Christian fellowship of the YWCA itself. In the decade between 1940 and 1950 the YWCA Convention itself expressed in formal language in the Interracial Charter its intent to be one fellowship without distinctions.

Between 1880 and 1890 association work began in rural communities, and shortly after the turn of the century, industrial work started in the mill villages in the southern states. Leaders with experience and understanding of foreign-born and foreign-speaking women were added to the national staff to organize programs for such groups. This resulted in the forming of separate units of the YWCA in cities with a large foreign-speaking population. As this work grew in size and scope it became in 1933 a separate national organization. The National Institute for Immigrant Welfare, one of the many organizations which owes its inception to the national YWCA.

Working Standards Introduced

In 1919, at the first national industrial conference in Washington, D. C., a resolution was passed urging that the Association "consider and present to the National Board (Executive body of the National Organization) a set of standards for women in industry." These standards included an eight-hour working day, prohibition of night work and the right of labor to organize.

In 1920 the National Convention exphasized and expressed its commitment to the belief that Christian ideals must affect society as well as the lives of individuals.

The YWCA was one of the first organizations to consider unemployment insurance, as result of concentrated study of the unemployment problem as it affected women during the 1930's.

Negro Girl Heads Y Teens

Janie Green Wood, high school junior of Winston-Salem, was elected president of the Y Teen Conference held at the Raleigh YWCA last Saturday.

Miss Wood is a member of the Negro branch of the YWCA in Winston-Salem.

Other officers elected at the first interracial conference to be held by the Y Teen organization included Mary Nell Pearsall, vice-president, of Greensboro; Lucia Jones, secretary, of Raleigh; and Frances Fonner, treasurer, of Asheville. These girls are members of the Central Association of the YWCA.

The conference attracted teen-aged girls from throughout North Carolina. The Negro branch of the Y was represented by only two delegates from each city, along with an adviser and an adult member. There is expected to be a larger quota of delegates allotted the Negro branch next year.

A non-segregated banquet was a highlight of the meetings. It was arranged by the Raleigh Y Teen Club and presiding was Margaret Paris of Raleigh, the retiring State president.

Next year's conference will be held in High Point. Jane Harrigan of High Point was named hostess.

Afro-American
P. 15
Baltimore, Md.
Dat. 2-5-55

A CONTEST to elect the most popular Y-Teen president is being sponsored by the Teen-Age Department of the Washington, D.C. YWCA. Contestants are shown above, starting at the top of the steps, as follows: Katrina Ward, Armstrong Y-Teen Club; Alta Morrison, Church Hill Y-Teens; Gwendolyn Beverly, Blue Triangle Y-Teens; Delores Ruff, Maggie Walker Y-Teens; and Barbara James, Benjamin Graves Y-Teens. Queenie Swapman, Barrett Y-Teen Club, is not shown.

DISCUSS YWCA PROGRAM—Miss Doris V. Wilson, seated center, national student secretary of the YWCA, Southern Region, with headquarters in Atlanta, confers with Bennett College students about strengthening and expanding the campus YW program.

Flanking Miss Wilson, left to right are: Misses Doris Lanier of Bath, N. C., and Jennifer Jones, of Greenville, S. C. Standing, left toright: Miss Phoebie Ewings, Mt. Gilead, N. C., Lula Allison, Troutman, N. C., Edith Kernodle and Vera Kernodle, both of Burlington, N. C.